

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 00303 261308Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EB-08 COME-00 AID-05 TRSE-00 /077 W
-----261314Z 051189 /65

R 261215Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3493
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, SU
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AT SSU CONFERENCE

1. AMID TIGHT SECURITY, UNDER SSU BANNER PROCLAIMING "POWER, FREEDOM, SOCIALISM", NIMEIRI OPENED SECOND TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF SSU MOVEMENT JAN 25 WITH STEM-WINDER ADDRESS DESIGNED ENERGIZE 2,000 MASSED DELEGATES IN FRIENDSHIP HALL. ON BASIS PRELIMINARY TRANSLATION, SPEECH WAS NOTEWORTHY FOR ABSENCE ANTI-EPMG POLEMICS AND ONE COMMENT SUGGESTING THAT PERSONNEL CHANGES MIGHT BE NEEDED TO ASSURE THE ANTICIPATED "LEAP" FORWARD. NIMEIRI ALSO NOTED NEED IN THIS CONNECTION TO TAKE STEPS ENCOURAGE FOREIGN INVESTMENT. OTHERWISE SPEECH CONFINED TO INSPIRATIONAL GENERALITIES AND REITERATION STANDARD THEMES.

2. REFERRING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION LATER IN YEAR, NIMEIRI SAID ANYONE COULD BE CANDIDATE (APPLICATIONS FOR THOSE BRASH ENOUGH TO APPLY WERE PASSED OUT AT DOOR), THAT HE HIMSELF HAD AGREED RUN SINCE HE HAD RECEIVED 100 PERCENT ARMY SUPPORT, BUT THAT "FINAL CHOICE IS OF COURSE UP TO YOU DELEGATES". THRONG RESPONDED WITH LOUD HUZZAHS.

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3. COMMENT: WHOLE AFFAIR CAREFULLY STAGED WITH NIMEIRI AS SSU "LEADER" ONLY NOTABLE TO APPEAR AT PODIUM. PRESIDENT CLOSED SESSION BY WARNING DELEGATES THAT SSU LEADER (I.E., HIMSELF) WOULD REPORT TO DELEGATES MORNING JAN 26 "AND IT WILL BE A LONG SPEECH". COMBINATION SUCH PUBLIC CANDOR WITH CAREFUL STAGING AND EVIDENCE MILITARY SUPPORT MAKES HIM SHOO-IN FOR

RE-ELECTION. PRIOR TO SESSION, NIMEIRI REPORTEDLY TOLD SENIOR SSU SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS THEY SHOULD LEAVE TO HIM QUESTION ASSURING ARMY'S CONTINUING LOYALTY BUT THAT THEIR RESPONSIBILITY WAS TO ASSURE THERE NO THREAT TO STABILITY FROM "THE STREET", AN EVIDENT REFERENCE TO RECENT EVENTS IN EGYPT. BREWER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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